THE

FORCEP;

A JOURNAL

DEVOTED TO THE ADVANCEMENT

OF

DENTAL SCIENCE,

PUBLISHED BY

THE N. Y. TEETH MANUFACTURING CO.

No. 404 BROADWAY, N. Y.

Vol. 2. No. 1.

NEW YORK:

C. A ALVORD, PRINTER, 15 VANDEWATER STREET.

1857.

TERMS, $1 PER VOLUME, IN ADVANCE.

BALTIMORE COLLEGE

OF

DENTAL SURGERY.

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PRINCIPLES OF DENTAL SCIENCE.

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DEMONSTRATOR OF DENTAL SURGERY.

The Session will commence on the 1st of October, and close on the 3d of March.

The month of October will be devoted to practical instruction in the Infirmary, Laboratory and Dissecting Room, which will be open every evening throughout the session. The regular Course of Lectures will commence on the 3d of November.

Professors' tickets $110; Infirmary ticket $10; Dissection ticket (optional) $10; Matriculation Fee $5; Graduation Fee $30. Board $3 to $4 per week.

For further information, address

P. H. AUSTEN, *Dean of the Faculty,*
76 SHARP STREET.

THE FORCEP.

Vol. 2. 1857. No. 1.

IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTIFICIAL DENTISTRY,

Communicated by C. S. Putnam, for "THE FORCEP."

An experience of nearly five years in manufacturing Continuous Gum Materials, and of several previous years in preparing the same for block teeth, should enable one to speak with some certainty upon the best mode of conducting furnace work, and also of the character and nature of such ingredients as will insure certain and satisfactory results.

While I make no pretensions to teach in any process, I freely offer my experience in exchange for the many valuable suggestions, which, from time to time, have been given me by co-laborers in the same field of experiment.

Following this subject, I will endeavor to answer in full the letters lately received, concerning HARD RUBBER as a base for artificial teeth, and anticipate, if possible, a reply to the hundreds of others, likely to be written upon the same topic.

For baking the Continuous Body and Gum, which I prepare, a furnace should stand near a good light; but not in open air. What is called the Lehigh, white ash egg-size coal is considered best to use in fall and winter, and red ash egg-size for summer use. The majority of furnaces have a better draught in winter than summer, hence the advantage of using the hardest coal in winter, and red ash in the summer, when less heat is required, and less draught obtained, for though the latter burns more freely,

a little care will prevent any injury to the furnace from clinkers, and will also prove more economical than any other. All bituminous coals should be avoided, and none but those free from dirt and slate, should be used in a tooth furnace.

For the safety and strength of teeth, (no matter of whose manufacture,) all Continuous Gum Work should be slowly annealed in a close muffle after each baking.

BODY AND GUM.

The new directions on each box should be followed to the very letter, in order to bake with success this Body and Gum, (which may be known by bronze colored labels,) and which those who have used said material, claim for it the following requisite properties, viz.:

First. The Body has the least possible shrinkage of any heretofore used; one baking of it being sufficient in most cases for practical work. Should a few interstices remain, they may be filled with more Body, and the Gum laid immediately on.

Second. It may be carved or put into any shape or form, and thoroughly baked, and will so remain.

Third. It will bake in a slow heat a little above the melting point of pure gold, yet will not be injured by a white heat.

Fourth. It has no borax or solvent flux in composition, and consequently may be heated and cooled any number of times without injury, and when baked upon a piece of platina, it adheres so as to form a perfect mechanical union, the separation of which will leave a portion upon the metal.

Fifth. This Body contains an ingredient for imparting a depth to the Gum color, or in other words, an ingredient which the heat developes and so combines with the Gum, that with a glass one can apparently see far into the piece, if it has been properly baked.

Of the GUM I need say but little, except that it fuses at a higher heat than that which has heretofore been used of my manufacture.

Several different shades of color may be obtained from it, according to amount put on, and the degree of heat, and time in the furnace.

For instance, a thin layer of Gum fused in a high quick heat, will give a pale purple shade. Double that amount with a little higher and longer heat, will produce a dark purple shade. A medium quantity with sufficient heat to glaze quickly, will bring out a color, which compares favorably with the most approved Block Gum.

Large quantities of the same ingredients, of which this Gum and Body is composed, will remain subject to my order, and as I have correct and well tried receipes for every combination which enters into the whole, there will not be the slightest variation in all future quantities which I may prepare.

The Body will be invariably sold at 50 cts. per ounce, and the Gum at $2 per ounce without discount, and may be found at all the Dental depots in the Union.

A suggestion in regard to the use of pure gold as a solder in platina work, may prove acceptable to some:—

Take a strip of thin platina, say one inch square, and melt with a blow-pipe two pwts. pure gold over the surface of one side, then melt the same amount on the other side, after which roll to the desired thickness. For connecting joints, and in fact for all work which is to be covered, this method of using gold will not only prove useful, but economical. It is advisable in all cases, not to use more gold than necessary on a surface intended to be covered with the Continuous Body, nor should it be allowed to spread over parts of the plate, where it is not required, for it prevents a firm adhesion of the material; but if used as first described, this difficulty of spreading is absolutely overcome.

VULCANIZED RUBBER BASE FOR ARTIFICAL TEETH.

With all deference to the opinion of those who still adhere to the use of metals in the mouth, I beg to call attention to two important considerations in Artificial Dentistry, which seems to have been heretofore almost entirely overlooked by the profession, viz :

First. The irregular and injurious chemical or electrical, or chemico electrical action of all metallic plates in the mouth, (platina is the least objectionable.)

Secondly. That as far as the patient is concerned, (except perhaps in the matter of cost,) no improvement in a base for artificial teeth has of late been, or can be made, using metal, to remedy the unyielding rigidity which but few, even of the most limited practice, cannot have failed to have heard remarked upon by his patrons. This fact has been particularly forced upon my notice by the remarks of those patients who have had substituted sets of teeth upon *Vulcanized Rubber*, for those they had previously worn of silver, gold and platina respectively. All make a uniform comparison, and none vary materially from the opinion of a lady Quaker "Friend," who said, "Thee must remember to tell thy patients, that should they desire to first know the difference between teeth set on gold, and those set on Vulcanized Rubber, they must get for one foot an iron shoe, of the same thickness and dimensions as its mate; and by wearing both a short time, they will be enabled to decide which to choose—thy teeth set upon gold, or thy teeth set upon Vulcanized Rubber."

These are points which cannot be controverted, and which should condemn forever the purest as well as the basest metals for dental use, if a more useful substitute can be obtained.

There are those who agreed with me ten years ago, that metal in the mouth should have no place, if a substitute could be found. And so satisfied are the French of this fact at the present day, that they prefer to pay yearly for a set of teeth upon bone or hippopotamus, rather than to experience the feeling of the iron shoe.

Then consider the point of electrical action. What chemist is there, who will give us a theory, by which, after examining the mouths of our patients, we can alloy even the purest metals, so as to prevent their injurious electrical effects upon the glands and nerves? Who is there that can say that 18 carat gold plates, and even 20 carat, in many mouths, will not in the short space of a few months weigh from 5 to 10 grains less than when made? In one year the whole plate, in some cases, has become so thin as to be quite useless. Will any one demonstrate how a plate could be thus worn, in so short a time, by the brush, or by friction, in ordinary use? Are all the thin, worn out plates, which we take in exchange for new ones, worn by electrical action or by

use? or did the dentist try in the manufacture to see how thin he could make them?

For the several last years almost every improvement in artifical dentistry has been sought after, by many dentists, for the purpose of "economy of time and expense to the operator;" and, as a general thing, all such improvements result in but little benefit to patients. It is now a fact which needs no proof, that a set of teeth, (all things considered,) made upon platina in the best manner, is far better *for the patient*, than if mounted upon any other metal. Yet, no other style is made (using metal,) which requires the skill, time and pains-taking that this style of work does; and the expense of material is no greater than if ordinary gold plates were used, with blocks or gum teeth. And still no other style that has been used as much, has met such determined and *selfish* opposition as the "Continuous Gum Work."

If I may be permitted to join issue with advocates of *any* process on metal, I would place Vulcanized Rubber in opposition to all and to every combination of metals as a base for artificial teeth, if for no other reason than its POSITIVE UTILITY AND COMFORT TO THE PATIENT.

This style of work has now been *fully proved*, and found to combine all the useful advantages to the patient of every other style of artificial dentistry; and it also possesses at least *two* advantages over all metals, as before intimated, viz.: It is used without any injurious electrical action; and is free from that iron-banded rigidity, peculiar to common work, and also made to afford much more reliable aid to mastication; the great object of all teeth.

The durability of Vulcanized Rubber in the mouth, I need not advocate, nor speak of its firmness as a base; for no sane man could well examine a set of Rubber Gums without readily forming his own favorable conclusions.

But notwithstanding its many valuable advantages to patients, (and I hold that all improvements which benefit patients, do likewise act reciprocally on the operator,) the work has an ordeal to pass, before it will be generally adopted. The proprietor of one dental depot raises an objection on account of its present mahog-

any color. Another objects, because it is *India Rubber*, and is generally considered by "our most influential citizens" as a very common and cheap article, too much so to be put in the mouth. A third gives it the *humbug* direct, and declares it to be of no use to the profession; because every one in town and village, cannot afford to have a boiler and apparatus for vulcanizing.

The facts touching these objections, are none the less true to a limited extent, notwithstanding the source from which they emanate. But, let every dentist become a patient, with a set of artificial teeth in his mouth, cheoplastic, blocks on gold, continuous gums, or what not, and afterwards change them for a set on Vulcanized Rubber, and he would, if sincere to his patrons, soon find a way to obviate all the objections which have been or can be brought to bear against it, and I shall be prepared at any time, to establish beyond all reasonable controversy, what is herein set forth.

THE VULCANIZING PROCESS

has now become so simplified, as to be within the reach of all. I have had constructed for dentists a small steam chest, in which four sets can be vulcanized at one heat, and is so arranged as to be readily attached to any stationary boiler in a manufactory or workshop, the cost of which is no more than $30.

THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS

will be sufficient for those wishing first to try the material. Arrange the teeth with wax upon a gutta percha or lead plate, the thickness desired for the rubber, (say about double the thickness of ordinary gold plate,) to be first pressed over a small, thin plaster model of the mouth. Then trim the wax inside and out of the teeth, to represent the amount of rubber required, and send the plate, wax and model to any of the dental depots in this city, or their agents, with $12, and the piece will be completed for use.

Should parties sending, prefer to polish their own work, the charge will be only $8. These charges cover the commission to Mr. Goodyear for his right in the rubber material.

Half price will be charged for partial plates, of less than seven

teeth, all of which will be returned the day following their receipt by mail or as otherwise ordered.

TO POLISH THE WORK.

Use, first, a coarse file; second, emery paper, coarse and fine; third, fine pumace stone and water; fourth, chalk or whiting with water; and lastly, a silk or velvet buff, with dry whiting.

During the last eight months I have constructed many sets, which I call the "Continuous Gum in Rubber," and which in the minds of many is peculiarly worthy of the highest consideration.

A narrow plate of platina is used, on which the teeth are arranged, soldered, and the Continuous Body and Gum applied, after which the rubber is vulcanized upon the piece, (which is but a continuous block,) covering every part but the teeth and gum. This style, however, will require more time to repair in case of accident, but thus far I have not had the experiment to make.

In my practice during the last twelve months, which is wholly artificial work, and almost entirely upon Hard Rubber, I have had but two cases to repair, each being Gum-teeth, the tooth in each instance splitting, and leaving a part of it in the rubber. These repairs are made by simply cutting away sufficient rubber from the broken tooth, to form dove-tail grooves for new material, and a new tooth replaced, when the whole is subjected to a steam heat as before, and without the slightest change to the set or fit of the whole.

About one year ago, I explained to Dr. Miles of the New York Teeth Co., several styles of teeth required in the rubber work, at which time he showed me patterns of specimens, which he had already ordered made, consisting of a groove and dove-tail on the inside, securing each tooth in the set; also some section sets with holes and grooves.

These teeth have proved to be admirably adapted for the purposes designed.

VULCANIZED RUBBER USED TO CORRECT THE IRREGULAR GROWTH OF TEETH.

The following case which I have recently regulated, will perhaps best elucidate this new use of Hard Rubber.

A young lady of 21 years called, having the two superior centrals projecting into the mouth the thickness of the teeth from the position they should stand. One was also overlapping one-third the crown of the other, and both standing obliquely or nearly sideways in relation to the adjoining teeth. The other teeth in the upper jaw were regular, none having been removed. After a little forced separation with wedges, I made from an impression of the palantine arch, a plain rubber plate, which fitted closely against the anterior crown of each bicuspid and molar, right and left. An allowance was made, so that the rubber would press against the inside corner of each central before touching the roof under the front part of the plate, and also in closing the mouth, that the full force of articulation would be directly upon this point. A gold pin was rivited to the front part of the plate in such position as to stand upright between the centrals, and thus prevent them closing together.

Other fixtures, springs, &c., were readily rivited and adjusted, as the progress of the case demanded, until the two teeth, at first so deformed and irregular, had assumed their proper position in the arch, and instead, an open and free expression was given to those and the adjoining ones, not even anticipated by the happy patient, or her delighted friends.

VULCANIZED RUBBER NOT GUTTA PERCHA.

All that was ever claimed by those who fully understood its properties, has been realized by both Dentist and Patient.

For *temporary use* it has been worn with satisfaction, when well made, until the gums were ready for more permanent work.

The fact that this material could be softened in water at 70 degrees, was sufficient evidence, that one years use in the mouth was all that could be anticipated from it. But when the process of hardening the Rubber is considered, the degree of heat to which it is subjected, (310,) the solid and firm shell finish which

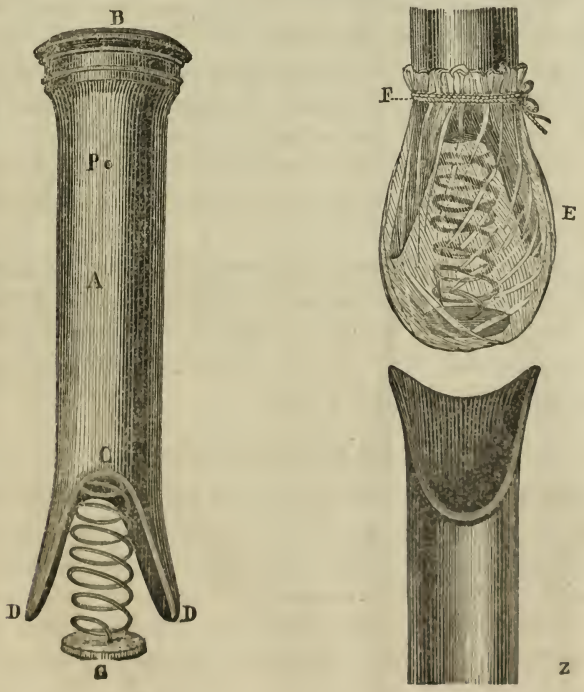
it receives and retains, and yet the same ease and adaptation preserved to the wearer as in Gutta Percha; then it is, that the character and elements of the Rubber are clearly and fully shown.

Whatever may be the opinion of dentists regarding the economy of time, or the character and expense of material used in the manufacture of any particular style of Artificial Dentistry, our *Patients* will be the final judges; and that which is worn with the greatest comfort, and renders the greatest service in strength, neatnessdur and ability, will and must be adopted for general use.

(Translated from the French.)

"L'Art Dentaire.

The employment of cold as a local anæsthetic agent, proves a great benefit every day in surgery. It is especially applicable when the operation is very painful and short in duration, such as lancing a tumor, drawing out a nail buried in flesh, &c.



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The extraction of a tooth is an operation which enters entirely into these conditions.

The process which we describe of applying the mixture to the gums, is due to Dr. C. S. Putnam of New-York.

It consists in producing a numbness in the part to be operated upon, by a cold mixture put into an apparatus. (See cut.)

This instrument is a Hard Rubber tube, (A.,) three inches long, and one inch diameter, closed at one extremity by a cap, (B.,) and open at the other end, (C.,) forming two lips to cover the gums. This opening is covered with a membraneous bag, (E.,) and tied with twine, (F.) When the instrument is to be used, it should be filled rapidly with the mixture two-thirds full, then insert the spring wire and disk (G.) upon the mixture, and screw down the cap (B.) This spring wire presses the mixture around the parts to be operated upon, and the application is continued two to three minutes, until the circulation of blood is arrested, and the gums assume a white appearance, which indicates the proper time to draw the tooth.

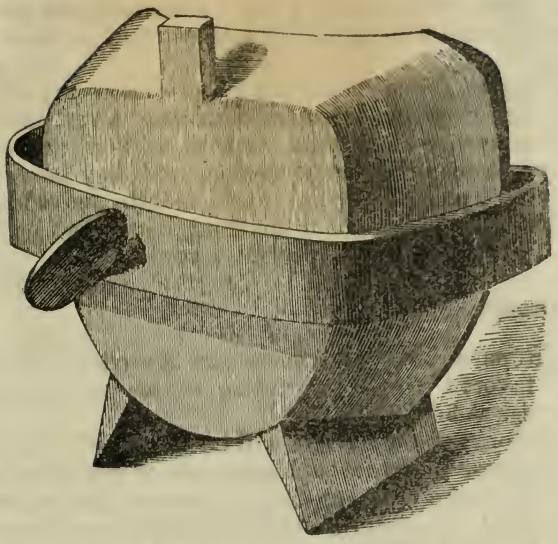
For back teeth it is necessary to use another tube, (Z.,) which presents but one groove. Each instrument contains a small hole, (P.,) to let the air escape as the mixture melts.

Mr. Putnam advises that a small metallic screw be placed in deep roots, to answer as a conductor and render the operation easier.

This process has proved very satisfactory, when applied to roots and teeth with dead nerves, but the application is sometimes painful, if applied to teeth with exposed nerves. In such cases, Mr. P. recommends that a nerve medicine be applied, and the tooth extracted the following day."

VULCANIZING FLASK.

In December, 1856, I constructed a pattern, and had cast an iron flask in three sections, which is now indispensible in the process of preparing moulds and vulcanizing the rubber around sets of teeth. This flask has also proved to be quite as indispensible in another branch of Dentistry, and I take this opportunity of offering it to the profession without any restrictions of a patent.



In connection with this subject, I state for the benefit of those it may concern, that a combination of plaster and pulverized soap-stone, the latter one-third, makes a neat and smooth mould, and will not shrink or crack in the process of drying.

Another use of this soap-stone will be found highly advantageous in making moulds for metallic dies:

Mix of it one-third to one-half with moulding sand. This mixture requires less moisture in the moulding process, and has the desired smooth surface, also parts more readily from the model than clear sand.

Mr. Putnam.

Sir!—I have received your note, asking, if I would be willing to give for the benefit of your profession a written statement of my experience in the use of a silver plate you first made me, and the one I now use, made of rubber. Not wishing, my name used so publicly, I should positively decline, but that several of my friends have had some of the difficulties which I experienced, and also, if by fulfilling your request, any good can be done, I the more cheerfully comply. Although the silver plate to which you refer, fitted easy, the whole roof, gums, and even my tongue and throat soon became raw and painful, as if produced by a strong acid. The salvia flowed incessantly, from the loss of which, or

otherwise, I was prostrated and sick. I removed the plate often, and cleaned it with whiting, but in a short time it would become a jet black.

To my regret, I was compelled to be without my teeth, until an opportunity was presented for obtaining a set upon rubber. These I have now worn several months without any of the unpleasant symptoms before experienced, and they being so much lighter, giving a pleasant feeling to the mouth, and without taste and smell, I have no desire for anything better.

Respectfully yours,

JANE SMITH.

North Orange, N. J.

HARD RUBBER USED AS A BASE FOR ARTIFICIAL TEETH.—We have been favored with a description of this process, by a well-known dentist at 35 Bond street.

Perhaps some of our readers will be interested in the few lines which we propose to devote to this subject, of which we can speak advisedly; for there is no mystery, or secresy maintained in the manipulation of this material for dental purposes. It seems that when the gum is prepared after the Goodyear process, moulds are made of plaster of Paris, in which the porcelain teeth are set, and the gum or rubber, as it is generally called, is packed in around the teeth in a soft state. The whole is then subjected for several hours to a steam heat of three to four hundred degrees, within a steam chest.

This hardens the material so as to change its character entirely. It is then no longer *common rubber*, the taste and smell of which is always disagreeable. It is now free from those attributes, and is thoroughly impervious to all kinds of fluids, and perfectly non-electrical. We speak with entire confidence on this point, having daily intercourse with a gentleman who several months since obtained a set of teeth upon HARD RUBBER, in exchange for a set he had previously worn upon a metalic plate. From him we learn that the effect of the salvia upon the metal plate was so great as to produce constant galvanic action in the mouth, and that but a short time elapsed before the plate had become so thin and perforate with holes as to render it quite useless.

We further understand from this gentleman, that it is a common occurrence with those of his friends, to whom he has mentioned his own case, and who are wearing metalic plates, to experience this galvanic action in the mouth; and how could it be otherwise, when the metal is undergoing this process of oxidization?

The question now arises as to what extent this action or decomposition affects the glands of the mouth, the health and nerves generally of those in whose mouth this agent is at work.

Cases are recorded wherein many forms of nervousness, and even paralysis of the whole system, has been produced on the instant of putting in the mouth a gold plate. But we did not intend to pursue this subject to such an *alarming* extent, yet we doubt not that when vulcanized, or hard rubber becomes more generally used for dental purposes, hundreds, if not thousands, will be able to account for those symptoms, which, until then, had remained a mystery.—*N. Y. Commercial Register.*

Dental Office and Laboratory,

No. 35 Bond Street, New York.

C. S. PUTNAM.

OBITUARY.

Dr. C. C. Allen, for several years Editor of the *Dental Recorder*, and an eminent member of the profession in the city of New York, was a native of Medway, Massachusetts, and commenced the labors of his calling in Norwich, Conn. Three other brothers of the family were inducted by him into dental practice, in which they are still actively engaged. Their grateful acknowledgment of his fraternal kindness, is one among many monuments to his memory, alike honorable to this band of brothers, the eldest of whom has first made an exchange of worlds.

Dr. C. C. Allen died of consumption at his residence in Great Jones street, New York, on Sunday, the 24th of May last, leaving a wife and an infant daughter, to lament their loss.

Last summer Dr. Allen made a voyage to Liverpool, with the intention of remaining some time in England, for the benefit of his declining health; but the voyage seemed to be injurious rather than beneficial to his health, and he returned almost immediately to his family, with whom he proceeded without delay to Florida. Subsequently he tarried a few weeks in Savannah, but finding that his strength was rapidly declining, he returned to New York early in April last, and soon sunk to his final repose.

Dr. Allen was too well known to the Dental profession gene-

rally, and to the Medical Society of New York, of which he was a member, to need any editorial commendation in this periodical. For a short time he officiated as lecturer on Dental Science in one of the Medical Colleges of this city, and he was presiding officer of the New York Society of Dental Surgeons for one or more years.

It is gratifying to know that his success in business enabled him to leave his family in circumstances of comfortable independence.

Since the issue of our last number, the profession has been called to lament the loss of one of its most distinguished members, in the death of Dr. H. P. Hullihen, of Wheeling, Va.

Dr. Hullihen was a medically educated man, and was eminent in other branches of the healing art, besides Dentistry.

The insertion of artificial eyes, as substitutes for those organs, which had been from time to time unmercifully gouged from the heads of Ohio river boatmen, constituted a distinct branch of his profession for many years. Other departments of medical and surgical practice also engaged some portion of his time and talents insomuch, that the citizens of Wheeling participate deeply in the general sorrow for his loss; and they will probably be compelled to wait many years before they will be able to find an individual, capable in all respects of filling his place.

☞ Correspondents are hereby notified, that all communications on business with this Company, must be directed to the "New York Teeth Manufacturing Co.," John M. Crowell having become disconnected with the Company.

By order of the Board.

W. H. Dwinelle, *Sec.* A. M. Sherman, *Pres.*

WORK FOR DENTISTS.

This Company has secured the services of Dr. A. Wilcox, whose superior workmanship in all departments of Mechanical Dentistry is acknowledged by the profession as widely as he is known, to assist them in filling the orders of all our correspondents, who may desire either Specimen Cases or Sets of Teeth for

actual use, in Gold, Silver, Platina, Cheoplatic Metal or Vulcanized Rubber.

VULCANIZED INDIA RUBBER WORK.

Teeth set upon India Rubber base, have been now worn and tested for a sufficient length of time, to render it certain, that this class of work will come rapidly into vogue. It is two years since the use of Rubber for this purpose was introduced to the attention of the profession, and experience has constantly multiplied evidence of its advantages.

This Company is now prepared to execute this class of work for Dentists in the best style and at the shortest notice, at the following rates:

Each case, or part of a case, after the teeth have been rightly arranged on wax, the wax expressing the desired form of the Rubber, - - - - - $8, without polishing.
$12, completely polished.
Specimen case, - - - $15, complete.

We have a full assortment of teeth for this kind of work, both in sections and blocks; gum and plain.

CONTINUOUS GUM WORK.

Since the introduction of Continuous Gum Work, an unvarying demand has existed for a combination of materials, possessing the least possible shrinkage; and also possessing a positive affinity for platina. These points and others, now seem to have been attained in the body lately prepared by C. S. Putnam.

His Gum, also, so blends with the body when fused, as to form a depth of shade and life appearance, which to say, the least renders the compounds worthy of the confidence of those using the "Continuous Work."

DR. PUTNAM'S CONTINUOUS GUM BODY.

Dr. Putnam's recent improvement in this article is truly admirable. Its solidity, compactness and strength leave nothing to be desired. It is made by a formula, founded on many experiments as well as long practice in the use of Continuous

Materials. We will send small samples of it to any person who may express a desire to examine it; and we are well convinced, that a better article has never been offered to the profession. Price 50 cents per ounce.

DR. PUTNAM'S CONTINUOUS GUM ENAMEL,

also manufactured expressly to accompany this body, is of equally fine quality. Price $2.00 per ounce.

☞ We take pleasure in commending to our professional friends in London and Paris, Mr. C. S. Putnam, of this city, who intends visiting them this summer for the purpose of introducing some improved style of Artificial Dentistry, including one of the most important,

"The Vulcanized Rubber Base."

Mr. George P. Miles, formerly engaged in the New York Teeth Manufacturing Co., and who is also fully acquainted with all the improvements of the day, will accompany Mr. Putnam.

The experience of these gentlemen, and the value of the improvements in their possession, will commend them to the most favorable consideration of the members of the profession in Europe.

TO THE PROFESSION.

Learning from authentic sources, that certain interested parties are sending their agents through the country selling refuse and discorded teeth at reduced prices, and stating that the New York Teeth Manufacturing Co. had ceased to manufacture teeth, we take this opportunity to pronounce this statement to be columnious and false. Since Dr. Crowell left the establishment, Dr. C. S. Miles has taken charge of the manufacturing department, and is steadily producing the strongest and most beautiful teeth ever made by the Company. This assertion is formed on kno opinion of many of our customers, who are using our teeth dents, ually.